P.O. Box 8009

(313) 977-6123

FAX # (313) 977-6239

Sterling Heights, MI 48311-8009



City Council Mayor Stephen M. Rice Mayor Pro-Tem Andy M. Zaczek Councilwoman Deanna E. Koski Councilman Richard J. Notte Councilman Sam Palazzolo Councilman Jay Pollard

City Manager Steve M. Duchane



March 17, 1993

Ms. Donna R. Searcy, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Room 222 1919 M Street N. W. Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

FCC - MAIL ROOM

RE: Ex Parte Presentation in MM Docket No. 92-266

Dear Ms. Searcy:

In accordance with the Commission's ex parte rule, 47 C.F.R. 1.1206, this letter is being filed in Docket No. 92-266 as notification that I have written a letter to Commissioner Barrett, Commissioner Duggan, and Acting Chairman Quello as an ex parte presentation expressing the concerns and views of the City of Sterling Heights, Michigan. in the matter of cable rate regulation.

Enclosed are two copies of the letter to the Commissioners for inclusion in the public record of Docket No. 92-226.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn George, Chairperson Cable Commission

City of Sterling Heights

encl. Letter of Acting Chairman Quello and Commissioners Barrett and Duggan

CC. Hon. James H. Quello Hon. Ervin S. Duggan

Hon. Andrew C. Barrett

Mathryn 1. Frage

City Council Mayor Stephen M. Rice Mayor Pro-Tem Andy M. Zaczek Councilwoman Deanna E. Koski Councilman Richard J. Notte Councilman Sam Palazzolo Councilman Jay Pollard

City Manager Steve M. Duchane



City of Sterling Heights Administration Building 40555 Utica Road P.O. Box 8009 Sterling Heights, MI 48311-8009 (313) 977-6123 FAX # (313) 977-6239

March 17, 1993

Hon. James H. Quello Acting Chairman Commission 1919 M Street N. W. Washington, DC 20554

Hon. Andrew C. Barrett Commissioner Federal Communications Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street N. W. Washington, DC 20554

Hon. Ervin S. Duggan Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street N. W. Washington, DC

RE: Ex Parte Presentation in MM Docket No. 92-266 CABLE RATE REGULATION

FCC - MAIL ROOM

Dear Chairman Quello, Commissioner Barrett and Commissioner Duggan:

The City of Sterling Heights is very concerned with the possibility of the "Baby Bells" entering into the cable entertainment business. Sterling Heights is currently serviced by Comcast Cablevision which was granted a 15 year exclusive franchise agreement in 1981. Through this franchise agreement our residents are guaranteed PEG channels and with the 5% franchise fee government the city is able to operate it's award winning channel. (Please note the included CHTV-5 program schedule which shows the extent of service the City is able to provide for it's residents). It is the belief that if the phone companies, like Michigan Bell/Ameritech, are allowed to operate a video dial tone cable service there will be no insurance of PEG channels or franchise fees for the citizens of Sterling Heights. Although a "Baby Bell" may imply itself as a healthy competition alternative for subscribers it would eventually be the "death" of cable companies as we know it and would once again subject subscribers to a monopoly service with monopoly pricing.

Cable rates are also a concern of the City and it's residents. communities, the basic rates, premium rates, installation charges and other service rates have increased steadily since the 1984 Cable Act eliminated any local municipal Most notably, after the 1992 Cable Act veto was overridden Comcast once again increased its pricing.

The City of Sterling Heights supports the suggestions and concerns raised by the National League of Cities, the National Association of Telecommunications Officer & Advisors, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Association of Counties ("Local Governments") in their Comments and Reply Comments filed in this Docket.

specifically ask the Commission simple to support certification process for rate regulation at the local level.

We urge the Commission to adopt realistic "cost per channel" benchmarks based on rates in those areas where there is true head to head competition between

multi-channel video programming distributors. We support a benchmark rate of 34 cents per channel proposed by "Local Governments".

We hope the Commission will also allow local jurisdictions to work in partnership with the Commission on the review and regulation of rates for cable programming services.

In accordance with the Commission's rules regarding written ex parte presentations, two copies of this letter are being filed with the Commission's Secretary, as required under 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1206. A copy of this letter is enclosed for your files.

Respectfully submitted,

Hotheya & longe

Kathryn George, Chairperson Cable Communication Commission City of Sterling Heights

encl. Ex Parte Notification Letter cc. Donna R. Searcy, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

## March 1993 City Hall Television Program Schedule



MARCH 1-5 MONDAY		MARCH 1 - 5 continued FRIDAY		MARCH 8 · 12 continued THURSDAY	
	FITNESS IN MOTION		FITNESS IN MOTION		FITNESS IN MOTION
	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT	9:00am	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT		CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT
		9:30am	<del>-</del>		COUNCIL CONNECTION
	COUNCIL CONNECTION				NEWS 5
	STERLIHTS AT YOUR SERVICE	10:00am	CHTV SPORTS		STERLHTS.AT YOUR SERVICE
	NEWS 5	4.00	Boys Basketball, Bulls vs. Pistons		
	ETHNIC NEWS	4:30pm		- F	COUNCIL CONNECTION
	FITNESS IN MOTION	5:00pm			LEGALLY SPEAKING
	STERLING SPOTLIGHT	5:30pm		3:00pm	CHTV SPORTS
	NEWS 5	•	STERLING SPOTLIGHT		Dimitri's vs. Sterling Heights
	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT		NEWS 5	4:30pm	
•	COUNCIL CONNECTION		STERL HTS.AT YOUR SERVICE	•	ETHNIC NEWS
	LEGALLY SPEAKING		COUNCIL CONNECTION		FITNESS IN MOTION
8:30pm	CHTV SPORTS		LEGALLY SPEAKING	,	STERLING SPOTLIGHT
W. man	Boys Basketball: Bulls vs. Pistons	8:30pm	CHTV SPORTS		NEWS 5
TUESD.			Boys Basketball: Bulls vs. Pistons	7:00pm	
	FITNESS IN MOTION				APPEALS MEETING
	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT	MARCH		FRIDAY	
	COUNCIL CONNECTION	MONDA			FITNESS IN MOTION
	STERLING SPOTLIGHT		FITNESS IN MOTION		CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT
	LEGALLY SPEAKING		CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT		COUNCIL CONNECTION
3:00pm	CHTV SPORTS		COUNCIL CONNECTION		CHTV SPORTS: Dimitri's/Sterling Hts
	Boys Basketball: Bulls vs. Pistons		STERL.HTS.AT YOUR SERVICE	•	NEWS 5
4:30pm	NEWS 5	•	NEWS 5		ETHNIC NEWS
	ETHNIC NEWS		ETHNIC NEWS		FITNESS IN MOTION
	FITNESS IN MOTION		FITNESS IN MOTION		STERLING SPOTLIGHT
	STERLING SPOTLIGHT		STERLING SPOTLIGHT		NEWS 5
	NEWS 5	•	NEWS 5		STERL.HTS.AT YOUR SERVICE
7:00pm	STERL HTS AT YOUR SERVICE		CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT		COUNCIL CONNECTION
	COUNCIL CONNECTION	7: <b>30</b> pm	COUNCIL CONNECTION		LEGALLY SPEAKING
8:00pm	LIVE STERLING HEIGHTS		LEGALLY SPEAKING	8:30pm	CHTV SPORTS
	CITY COUNCIL MEETING	8:30pm	CHTV SPORTS		Dimitri's vs. Sterling Heights
WEDNESDAY Dimitri's vs. Sterling Heights					
	FITNESS IN MOTION	TUESDA		MARCH	
	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT		FITNESS IN MOTION	MONDA	
	COUNCIL CONNECTION		CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT		FITNESS IN MOTION
10 00am	3/2/93 CITY COUNCIL MEETING		COUNCIL CONNECTION		CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT
	STERL HTS AT YOUR SERVICE		STERLING SPOTLIGHT		COUNCIL CONNECTION
	COUNCIL CONNECTION	4:30pm			STERL HTS AT YOUR SERVICE
2.30pm	LEGALLY SPEAKING		ETHNIC NEWS	4:30pm	
3 00pm	CHTV SPORTS		FITNESS IN MOTION		ETHNIC NEWS
	Boys Basketball: Bulls vs. Pistons		STERLING SPOTLIGHT		FITNESS IN MOTION
4 30pm	NEWS 5	6:30pm			STERLING SPOTLIGHT
5:00pm	ETHNIC NEWS		STERL HTS AT YOUR SERVICE	- · · · · · · · ·	NEWS 5
5:30pm	FITNESS IN MOTION		COUNCIL CONNECTION	7:00pm	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT
6 00pm	STERLING SPOTLIGHT		LEGALLY SPEAKING	7: <b>3</b> 0pm	COUNCIL CONNECTION
6:30pm	NEWS 5	8:30pm	CHTV SPORTS	8:00pm	LEGALLY SPEAKING
7:00pm	LIVE STERLING HEIGHTS		Dimitri's vs. Sterling Heights	8:30pm	CHTV SPORTS
CABLE COMMISSION MEETING		WEDNESDAY			Girls Basketball: Bulls vs. Lakers
THURSDAY		8:30am	FITNESS IN MOTION	TUESDA	AY
	FITNESS IN MOTION	9 00am	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT	8.30am	FITNESS IN MOTION
	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT		COUNCIL CONNECTION	9:00am	CITY MANAGEMENT REPORT
	COUNCIL CONNECTION	2 00pm	COUNCIL CONNECTION		COUNCIL CONNECTION
10:00am		•	LEGALLY SPEAKING		STERLING SPOTLIGHT
4 30pm	NEWS 5	3 00pm	CHTV SPORTS	2:30pm	LEGALLY SPEAKING
	ETIMIA MEMA		Mark to the second of the seco	<del></del>	AND CARACTA B II I I